pressure, decision making, etc. towards a safe and responsible lifestyle. The activities at the school level include, Training of Teachers and Peer Educators, a nodal teacher-peer educator approach among students, participatory activities like role plays, discussions, debates, competitions, question box and access to referral services, if necessary.

Joint campaign for HIV and TB

546. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has the largest number of people with turberculosis;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has also largest number of HIV positive people infected with Tuberculosis;

(c) if so, the Government have any programme for joint campaigning for these deadly diseases; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that HIV patients are more prone to tuberculosis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, India has the highest burden of TB cases in the world.

It is estimated that out of 8.8 million TB cases occurring each year globally, 1.8 million occur in India.

(b) India has an estimated number of 5.1 million HIV infected persons by 2003. It is also estimated that 50-60 per cent of those infected with HIV have the chance of developing TB during their lifetime.

(c) A Joint Action Plan is being implemented in 6 high prevalence States from 2001-2002 and the same has been extended to additional 8 States from 2003-2004.

(d) Yes, Sir, HIV not only increases the susceptibility to infection with the tuberculosis but also increases the rate of progression from latent TB infection to active TB disease.